

To: Director and Laboratory Staff
From: Survey and Appraisal
Subject: SURVEY NOTES

FARM SITUATION AND GENERAL BUSINESS
ACTIVITY

DEMAND FOR FARM PRODUCTS AND HIGH LEVELS OF INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY REFLECT STRONG
DEMAND FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

Demand for farm products continues to grow stronger as overall business activity expands. The BAE index of prices received by farmers in mid-December was up 4 percent from the previous month, with average prices of all major groups of farm commodities except cotton advancing.

High levels of industrial activity, employment and income reflect the strong demand for goods and services. Although retail sales have tapered off from the "scare buying" levels of July and August, they are running well above levels of a year earlier. Demand by business is still expanding and is expected to continue strong. Business outlays on new plant and equipment during the first quarter of 1951 are expected to exceed those of any previous first quarter on record. For the entire year 1951 business is planning to increase its outlays 21 percent above 1950. Allowing for the rise in costs of capital goods in 1950, the volume of outlays is currently anticipated at 17 percent above actual expenditures in 1950. However, in view of the tight materials and manpower situation which will result from increased defense expenditures, there is some question whether this expansion will be realized in 1951.

The Demand and Price Situation, BAE, December 1950, p.1.

COTTON LINT

24,641,000 COTTON ACRES IN 1951, FAIRCHILD'S SURVEY ESTIMATES

Reports from correspondents of Fairchild News Service indicate that farmers in the South intend to plant 24,641,000 acres to cotton this year compared with 18,654,000 acres planted in 1950. The increases were fairly general, but were most pronounced in the Far West, especially the irrigated sections. There being no acreage controls this year, there are indications that the acreage may even be larger than presently indicated. Some correspondents mention the fact that the question of labor supply, the question of proper planting seed, and the replacement of farm machinery will be a factor in the final plantings.

Over large areas west of the Mississippi River there is a lack of subsoil moisture. If rainfall is not sufficient by planting time, this may curtail the acreage; but, on the other hand, if rainfall is sufficient, the acreage may be increased even beyond the present figures. Most sections of the central and eastern belts indicate the winter has been colder than usual, and only a small emergence of insects is expected in the spring. The weevil damage was unusually heavy in 1950.

Daily News Record, January 9, 1951, p.

GINNINGS AND 1950 CROP ESTIMATE

On December 10th, the U. S. Crop Reporting Board announced its December first estimate of the United States cotton crop at 9,884,000 bales, which figure was 61,000 bales below the November first forecast. This indicated 1950 crop compares with 16,128,000 bales produced in 1949 and 1939-1948 average of 11,599,000 bales. The acreage of cotton in cultivation as of last July was estimated at 18,654,000 acres, which compares with 27,719,000 acres in 1949 and 21,859,000 acres for the ten-year average.

There were 9,199,668 bales of cotton of the growth of 1950 ginned prior to last December 13th. This figure compares with 14,775,691 bales of the 1949 crop ginned to mid-December 1949.

Table 1.- Cotton statistics for certain calendar years

(Thousands of running bales for American and equivalent 500-lb. bales for foreign cotton)

	1950 1/	1949	1940
Production of commercial cotton in the world.....	24,996	29,803	28,720
Production of cotton in the U. S.....	9,696 2/	15,909	12,298
Consumption of all cottons in the U. S.....	9,623	7,872	8,053
Exports of American Cotton by the U. S.....	5,686	5,151	3,740
Year-end stocks of all cottons in the U. S.:	3/		
Mills.....	2,000	1,650	1,837
Warehouses.....	7,100	10,665	15,051
Farms, transit, etc.....	1,050	3,216	1,828
Total.....	10,150	15,531	18,716
Government holdings.....	100	6,077	10,882
"Free" stock.....	10,050	9,454	7,834
Total.....	10,150	15,531	18,716
Government loan rates and market prices of			
Middling 15/16-inch cotton - cents/lb.:			
Average loan rate.....	29.45	29.43	9.15
End-December price.....	43.28 4/	30.75	10.07
Year-end gross mill margins (Cloth price less price:			
of raw cotton content) - cents/lb.:			
Three print cloths.....	65.47 5/	48.48	16.71
Three sheetings.....	42.82 5/	30.45	12.23
Two ducks and two drills.....	32.78 5/	26.13	14.09

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Based on average gross bale weight of past five years.

3/ All of these stock items are rough estimates, the latest official data being for December 2.

4/ As of December 26th.

5/ As of December 21.

Source: New York Cotton Exchange Service.

Rayon Organon, January 1951, p. 12.

PRICES FOR RAW COTTON AND COTTON FABRICS DURING 1950 AVERAGE MUCH HIGHER THAN 1949

Cotton prices averaged substantially higher in 1950 than for 1949 and continued to increase in 1951. In mid-January 1951 Middling 15/16" cotton was priced at 46.3 cents as compared with 32.8 cents in January 1950, and 34.2 cents in January 1949. The spread between cotton and rayon staple prices increased considerably during the year, and on January 15, 1951 even acetate rayon staple was priced lower than cotton. Prices of most fabrics and mill margins were substantially higher in 1950 than in 1949, and as of December were the highest since March 1948.

Table 2.- Prices of raw cotton, rayon staple, and cotton fabrics, and cotton mill margins in cents

	Cotton:	Viscose:	Acetate:	Cotton fabrics 3/	Print-
	staple:	staple:	staple:	Price :	cloth
	1/	2/	2/	4/	6/
	margin	5/	6/	6/	6/
Averages	:	:	:	:	:
1940.....	11.1	22.3	40.9	22.5	12.3
1942.....	20.5	22.3	38.3	40.4	21.1
1945.....	23.8	22.3	38.3	43.2	20.9
1946.....	31.9	22.6	38.6	57.6	26.7
1947.....	36.0	28.4	42.5	89.0	54.8
1948.....	35.2	32.5	42.7	81.0	48.4
1949.....	33.3	31.8	38.3	63.8	32.5
1950.....	38.0	32.1	37.7	76.6	40.4
1950, Jan.....	32.8	31.2	37.4	69.1	37.9
1950, Dec.....	44.5	35.6	42.7	92.9	50.2
1951, Jan. 15	46.3	35.6	42.7	-	-

1/ Cotton Middling 15/16", delivered at mill, lb.

2/ Rayon price to mill of same amount of usable fiber as supplied by one pound of cotton (rayon price x.89).

3/ Cotton fabrics, average 17 constructions.

4/ Price of approximate quantity of cloth obtainable from a pound of cotton with adjustments for saleable waste (Cotton Branch, PMA).

5/ Difference between cloth prices and prices (10-market average) of cotton assumed to be used in each kind of cloth (Cotton Branch, PMA).

6/ Prices per yard as quoted in Daily Mill Stock Reporter and Daily News Record for following: sheeting, 37" 4.00, yd; osnaburg, 36" 2.35, yd.; and print-cloth, 38-1/2" 5.35 yd.

GOVERNMENT PLANS HIKING PRICE SUPPORT FOR EXTRA LONG STAPLE

Pushing for a big increase in domestic production of Amsak and Pima 32 varieties of extra long staple American-Egyptian cotton in 1951, the Agriculture Department decided that producers of these varieties should be given a Government support price in excess of 90 percent of parity. The Department indicated that a support level of around \$1.04 per pound, 1-1/2 inches in length, with appropriate differentials for other grades and staple lengths, will be necessary to get 1951 production up to about 75,000 bales, as part of the national defense program. Many cotton growers in the Southwest switched last year from the production of American upland cotton to long staple cotton because of cotton production controls which were then in effect. The 1950 long staple cotton crop was in excess of 50,000 bales.

COTTON CONSUMPTION INCREASES; STOCKS DECLINE DURING 1950

Consumption of cotton totaled 9.7 million bales during 1950, as compared with 7.9 million bales in 1949; 9.1 million bales in 1948; and 11.4 million bales in 1942. Use of cotton was 784 thousand bales during December 1950, compared with 734 thousand bales for the same month the previous year. Stocks at the end of 1950 were 8.7 million bales, compared with 12.3 million bales on December 31, 1949, and 7.6 million bales on the last day of 1947. Active spindle hours and spindle activity increased from 1949 to 1950.

Table 3.- Cotton consumption and stocks, and spindle hours:
in cotton mills, for specified years and months

Calendar year	Consumption	On hand ^{1/}	Average active spindle hours per month ^{2/}	Average spindle activity per month ^{3/}
	Bales	1,000 bales	Billions	Percent
1940.....	8,052,238	16,888	8.2	96.2
1942.....	11,433,444	16,123	11.1	134.8
1945.....	9,141,358	12,898	8.9	113.5
1946.....	9,826,786	8,212	9.1	117.6
1947.....	9,577,455	7,632	9.7	124.6
1948.....	9,095,142	10,461	9.6	124.1
1949.....	7,873,383	12,345	8.2	107.4
1950.....	9,668,380	8,662	10.2	132.9
1949, Dec.....	733,833	12,345	9.2	124.7
1950, Dec.....	784,057	8,662	9.9	141.3

^{1/} Stocks on hand as of December 31.

^{2/} Average of 12 months of each year for yearly data.

^{3/} Spindle activity as percent of 80 hour capacity. Includes activity on fibers other than cotton. Average of percentages for 12 months for yearly data.

From Census reports.

CHINA COTTON HARVEST SURPASSES TARGET

China harvested 700,000 tons of ginned cotton in the autumn of last year, surpassing the 650,000-ton target set by the Central People's Government early in 1950. It is claimed that the harvested cotton will be sufficient to keep the textile industry running for a year. A three-year plan has already been worked out and by 1953, cotton experts predict, China will not only be in a position to meet her own needs, but also will have a surplus for export.

Daily News Record, January 17, 1951, p. 23.

COTTON PRODUCTS

DATA ON COTTON IN THE BEDSPREAD INDUSTRY GIVEN

In a recent study by the National Cotton Council of America, information is given on the amount of cotton consumed in the three segments of the bedspread industry, namely, tufted, woven, and tailored. The study indicates that tufted bedspreads normally account for about 50 percent of the unit production of the bedspreads; woven spreads about 45 percent; and tailored spreads for about 5 percent. Cotton is the principal textile fiber consumed in the tufted bedspread industry. Background fabrics are cotton exclusively. Tufting yarns are predominantly cotton.

Yarns for fringes are mostly cotton. Threads used in hemming and serging machines are cotton. Some rayon yarns are used for tufting, but the quantity is negligible in comparison with consumption of cotton tufting yarns. Table 4 shows the estimated production and value of tufted bedspreads and estimated consumption of textile fabrics and yarns.

Table 4.- Estimated production and value of tufted bedspreads; estimated consumption of textile fabrics and yarns 1/

Year	Units	Wholesale value	Materials consumed		
			Yarn	Fabric	Cotton
	1,000	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds	1,000 lin. yards	478-pound bales 2/
1941.....	7,400	22,000	16,000	22,000	75,000
1946.....	10,100	66,000	25,000	34,000	116,000
1947.....	7,800	51,000	20,000	26,000	89,000
1948.....	10,100	61,000	25,000	34,000	116,000
1949.....	11,100	45,000	28,000	37,000	127,000

1/ Statistics for 1941 and 1949 from Tufted Textile Manufacturers Association.

Statistics for other years based on trade information.

2/ A processing loss of 14.50 percent for fabrics and 19.24 percent for yarns was included in converting fabrics and yarns into cotton bale equivalents.

Woven bedspreads are divided into two major classifications which are identified as "Jacquard woven" and "not Jacquard woven". Jacquard-woven spreads may be made with quilted, stitched, raised, or flat designs. Different types and constructions of crinkle fabrics are used in most of the bedspreads classified as not-Jacquard-woven. Cotton, rayon, and mohair are the principal textile materials consumed in woven bedspreads. Conservative trade estimates indicate that Jacquard-woven bedspread fabrics are at least 90 percent cotton and that not-Jacquard-woven fabrics are more than 95 percent cotton. Rayon, either in the filling or warp, accounts for most of the remainder. Use of mohair is relatively small. Table 5 shows the estimated consumption of materials in woven bedspreads.

Table 5.- Estimated consumption of materials in woven bedspreads

Year	Jacquard-woven		Not Jacquard-woven		Total	
	Number of : Spreads 1/	Raw cotton : equivalent 2/	Number of : spreads 3/	Raw cotton : equivalent 4/	Number of : spreads	Raw cotton : equivalent
	478-lb. : 1,000 bales		478-lb. : 1,000 bales		478-lb. : 1,000 bales	
1941.....	4,874	64,000	4,303	21,000	9,177	85,000
1946.....	5,637	74,000	3,476	17,000	9,113	91,000
1947.....	5,059	66,000	4,957	25,000	10,016	91,000
1948.....	4,972	65,000	6,523	32,000	11,495	97,000
1949.....	4,645	61,000	4,390	22,000	9,035	83,000

1/ Trade sources reported that approximately 3-1/3 linear yards of fabric are consumed in each Jacquard spread.

2/ Jacquard woven bedspread fabrics average approximately 1.209 lbs. per lin. yd. When allowances are made for a 3 percent non-cotton content and a 27.10 percent processing loss, a 478-lb. bale of raw cotton will make about 255 lin. yds. of Jacquard-woven bedspread fabric.

3/ Trade sources reported that approximately 3 lin. yds. of fabric are consumed in each spread classified as "not Jacquard woven."

4/ "Not-Jacquard-woven" bedspread fabrics average approximately .701 lbs. per lin. yd. When allowances are made for a 5 percent non-cotton content and a 16 percent processing loss, a 478-lb. bale of raw cotton will make about 603 lin. yds. of "not-Jacquard-woven" bedspread fabrics.

From "Cotton in the Bedspread Industry," National Cotton Council publication.

WORSTED PATTERNS FOR COTTON SUITS TO BE INTRODUCED IN SPRING

Worsted patterns on all-cotton suits will hit the market in the spring of 1952. Until now cotton suits have been limited stylewise to plain colors in seersucker or cord fabric cloths. But one big weaver claims his all-cotton suits will have the same designs and appearance as tropical worsteds—and be washable, wrinkle-resistant, one-third the weight and one-half the price. The cloth will be introduced first in suits for women, then in suits for men.

The Wall Street Journal, Jan. 18, 1951, p. 1.

BAGS: NET COST OF USING COTTON FLOUR BAGS CHEAPER THAN FOR BURLAP

On January 15, the net cost of using new cotton bags was \$99.00 per thousand, \$138.60 cheaper than burlap bags and only \$21.30 higher than paper sacks. Cotton flour bags attained this favorable competitive position by a rise in the price of once-used flour bags, which are now selling for \$250.00 per thousand, as compared to \$160.00 for once-used burlap bags and \$40.00 for bakery run paper sacks.

The mid-month price of new 100-pound cotton flour bags reached a new high of \$349.00 in December 1950, and the price remained unchanged in January 1951. New burlap bags also reached an all-time high of \$397.60 in December 1950 and remained unchanged in January 1951. A peak also was reached by 100-pound sewn valve multiwall paper flour bags in December 1950 with a price of \$117.70 per thousand.

Table 6.— Mid-month prices of 100-pound flour bags for the specified years and months (Dollars per thousand)

		: Prices, new, :		: Prices, second-hand, N.Y. :		Difference			
		: St. Louis 1/ :		Once-used 2/ : Bakery-run 3/ :		Once-used 4/ : Bakery-run 5/ :			
<hr/>									
COTTON	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
1940.....:	87.38	:	6/	:	33.33	:	6/	:	54.05
1945.....:	168.67	:	6/	:	110.00	:	6/	:	58.67
1947.....:	300.70	:	6/	:	155.42	:	6/	:	145.28
1948.....:	263.36	:	150.00	:	120.83	:	113.36	:	142.53
1949.....:	232.00	:	132.92	:	95.83	:	99.08	:	136.17
1950.....:	276.50	:	168.75	:	126.25	:	107.75	:	150.25
1951, Jan.:	349.00	:	250.00	:	185.00	:	99.00	:	164.00
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BURLAP	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
1940.....:	94.81	:	6/	:	40.72	:	6/	:	54.09
1945.....:	149.85	:	6/	:	130.00	:	6/	:	19.85
1947.....:	256.98	:	6/	:	126.67	:	6/	:	130.31
1948.....:	232.28	:	6/	:	108.75	:	6/	:	123.53
1949.....:	218.05	:	105.83	:	101.46	:	112.22	:	116.59
1950.....:	276.84	:	117.50	:	126.08	:	159.34	:	150.76
1951, Jan.:	397.60	:	160.00	:	175.00	:	237.60	:	222.60
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PAPER	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
1940.....:	66.52	:	6/	:	-	:	6/	:	66.52
1945.....:	87.40	:	6/	:	-	:	6/	:	87.40
1947.....:	99.69	:	6/	:	26.11	:	6/	:	73.58
1948.....:	110.45	:	6/	:	12.08	:	6/	:	98.37
1949.....:	103.83	:	6/	:	6.53	:	6/	:	97.30
1950.....:	99.92	:	6/	:	9.58	:	6/	:	90.34
1951, Jan.:	117.70	:	6/	:	40.00	:	6/	:	77.70

1/ Cotton, 37" 4.00 yd. sheeting cut 43" unprinted; burlap 36" 10 oz. cut 43" unprinted; paper, 18" x 4-1/2" x 36-3/4" unprinted; all l.c.l. shipments. No allowance made for quantity or cash discounts. From a large-bag manufacturer.

2/ From a large second-hand bag dealer.

3/ From Daily Mill Stock Reporter.

5/ New minus bakery-run bags.

4/ New minus once-used bags.

6/ No data available.

NEW COTTON-BACKED WALL COVERING DEVELOPED

Plastisol coated over a cotton backing forms a new wall covering which has been developed by Susquehanna Plastics Division, Susquehanna Mills, New York, N. Y. The material, called "Suskana Wall Fabric," is furnished in 36-inch width.

Like other vinyl surfaces, the surface of Suskana is impervious to ink, grease, water, and most chemicals; and is fire resistant, colorfast, and odorless; and the producer claims that it will last longer than the linseed-oil coated fabrics which have been used for this type of wall covering for many years. The covering is especially suited to bathrooms, kitchens, dinettes, and play rooms, but designs are being developed to suit any room of a house.

Modern Plastics, November 1950, p. 186.

MEAT SHRINKAGE REDUCED WITH COTTON-PLASTIC COVERING

Meat shortages, in a future war, could be eased by a new development in packaging. About 3 percent, to 4 percent of a carcass is now lost in transit due to shrinkage. A casing of two layers of plastic with cotton sandwiched between, reputedly cuts down drying air to the extent that shrinkage is reduced by nearly half. J. P. Stevens & Co., big fabric manufacturer which is pioneering this development, says improvements may curtail the loss even more. Another claimed advantage: The new wrapper keeps the meat fresher looking, a good selling point.

The Wall Street Journal, Dec. 28, 1950, p. 1.

TIRE CORD: COTTON AND RAYON PRICES UP MODERATELY

The price of 12/4/2 cotton fabric was 91 cents per pound and 82.81 cents per square yard on January 1. This compares with December 1 prices of 90 cents per pound and 81.90 cents per square yard for the 12/4/2 cotton fabric. Rayon passenger tire cord increased to 73.29 cents per pound on January 1, compared with 72.29 cents on December 1.

Table 7.- Prices of cotton and rayon tire fabric,
January 2, 1951, and December 1, 1950

Fabric	Cord	Fabric weight: per sq.yd. 1/	Price per pound		Price per sq. yd.	
			Jan. 2	Dec. 1	Jan. 2	Dec. 1
		Pound	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Passenger car tires:						
Cotton fabric.....	12/4/2:	.91	91.00	90.00	82.81	81.90
Rayon fabric.....	1650/2:	.79	73.29	72.29	57.90	57.11
Truck tires						
Rayon fabric.....	1100/2:	.62	74.50	74.50	45.88	46.19
Rayon fabric.....	1650/2:	.78	79.00	74.00	61.62	57.72
Rayon fabric.....	2200/2:	.82	69.80	69.80	57.24	57.24

1/ These are typical fabric weights and vary somewhat for different tire manufacturers. Based on reports from independent rubber companies.

COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS

FIBERGLAS: GIANT PLANT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AT ANDERSON, S. C.

Work began in Anderson, S. C., on a multi-million dollar plant which is being constructed for the Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp., of Toledo, Ohio. It is estimated that the plant, which will manufacture spun glass yarns used in the making of insulating material and decorative fabrics, will be in production by the middle of 1951.

Southern Textile News, Jan. 13, 1951, p. 1.

JUTE: PAKISTAN TO INCREASE JUTE ACREAGE 25 PERCENT

Cable advices from Dacca to the U. S. Department of State report that the Government of East Bengal has increased the licensed jute acreage for 1951 to 7-1/2 (47 percent) of the basic 1940 acreage. This means a 25 percent increase over the 1950 acreage, or a total of 1,640,000 acres. The theoretical yield would be plus 5,000,000 bales of jute.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, Jan. 19, 1951, p.2.

JUTE: NEW FIBER DECORTICATOR DEVELOPED IN GERMANY

A new decortivating machine known as the "Hubert decorticator" is now being manufactured in Germany, and the manufacturers, Hubert-Maschinen, A. G., of Hamburg, say they have had a large order from Cuba for the purpose of decortivating Bimlipatam jute. The firm claims that their "H O2" and "H O4" decorticators will extract vegetable fibers from all kinds of material, and that large scale trials with pineapple leaves, (which are the most difficult to deal with) kenaf, sansevieria (bowstring hemp), phormium, and abaca stem strips, have been successful. They say that coarse leaves such as sisal may be dealt with at a very low rate of waste. Brushing or combing machines may be coupled to the machine or used separately, and the prepared fiber is said to show no remnants of cellular tissue or damage in spite of the fact that the fiber has been extracted direct from the leaves without retting.

Fashion & Development Section, C.L.F. Department
Courtaulds Ltd., Vol. 4, No. 23, Nov. 21, 1950.

KENAF: BILL OFFERS PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF RAMIE AND KENAF

Legislation directing the Government to launch a 10-year program to encourage domestic production of ramie and kenaf, soft fibers used in the manufacture of textile and other products, is pending before the House Armed Services Committee. Rep. Dwight L. Rogers (D., Fla.) sponsored this bill (H. R. 1299), which would set up a special 50 million dollar fund to encourage production and processing of ramie and kenaf.

Daily News Record, January 16, 1951, p. 32.

MOHAIR: SYNTHETIC BLENDS OPEN NEW OUTLET FOR FIBER

The combination of mohair fiber with synthetics has opened a new field to mohair fabrics and the long-term outlook for mohair includes possible expansion of the industry, according to a study by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Texas. No serious drop in mohair prices is expected for some time because of the strong domestic demand for the fiber. Mohair's ability to carry synthetic fibers and a number of other factors favor its production in the years ahead, W. M. Pirtchett, agricultural economist for the Dallas Bank, reported. He said recent experiments showed mohair could be blended with such stand-by fibers as cotton, wool, rayon, and nylon, and also compete with synthetic fibers.

Daily News Record, December 22, 1950, p. 5.

MOHAIR: GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS ADOPTION OF U. S. MOHAIR STANDARDS

The Agriculture Department said today it was considering adoption of United States standards for seven grades of mohair, in two series—spring and fall—and comments from interested persons on the proposed classifications will be received up to June 30. Grades included in the proposed standards are Grades 49s, 36s, 32s, 28s, 24s, 20s, and 16s.

Daily News Record, January 22, 1951, p. 4.

PLASTIC: 1950 FABRIC OUTPUT DOUBLES 1949 RATE

After some years of hovering on the sidelines, vinyl plastic fabric is now moving into the textile market with a rush. It's showing up as anything from a lamp base cover to deep-quilted furniture upholstery. And it's even edging out cotton and rayon in some ware. Already the unwoven fabric is going to war in things like guncovers, tarpaulins, military raincoats, and insulation for wires and cables. Stepped-up mobilization will see more of it put to military uses.

"There's no question that plastic fabrics are becoming a major factor in the textile industry," says a spokesman for M. Lowenstein Sons, big cotton weaver which started a plastics division a year ago. "Because they don't 'breathe' they're not well suited to wearing apparel—but in every other field they're competing directly with cotton and rayon." Output of plastic fabric this year is expected to leap to more than double the 1949 level. In 1949, output of vinyl plastics totaled some 200 million pounds. Last year producers stepped up the industry capacity to an estimated 325 million pounds. By the end of this year they think they can be turning out 425 million pounds annually. If the plastic fabric makers retain their same 60% share of the total, their output would thus jump to over 250 million pounds.

The Wall Street Journal, Jan. 4, 1951, p. 1.

PLASTICS: RAINCOAT MANUFACTURER UTILIZES HEAT SEALING

A production system that concentrates on electronic heat sealing rather than sewing machines and thread has been set up by National Plastikwear Fashions, Inc., manufacturer of plastic raincoats for men and women. The use of electronic heat in welding the plastic strips for the body of the garment as well as the sleeves and slash pockets is the first step in the company's plan to eliminate or to reduce to a minimum the use of sewing machines and thread. It is the company's opinion that heat welding helps eliminate thread rot and other causes of seam failure and thereby results in a stronger, longer lasting garment.

Daily News Record, January 22, 1951, p. 14.

RAYON: CAPACITY EXPECTED TO INCREASE SHARPLY BY OCTOBER 1952

Rayon fiber producers are expected to increase their capacity by about 6% by the middle of this year, and by another 10% before Oct. 1952, according to the Textile Economics Bureau, Inc. The Bureau, a statistics-gathering organization for the rayon industry, conducted a survey which showed that U. S. producers of the man-made fiber had the capacity last November to produce 1,306 million pounds a year, or about 9% more than their capacity at the end of 1949. It said the capacity now planned would be boosted to 1,383 million pounds by mid-1951, and further advanced to 1,520 million pounds by October of next year.

Sharpest planned increase in productive capacity is in the rayon staple (short fiber) end of the industry. Staple continues to be in great demand by the clothing, carpet, and blanket industries as a substitute for wool. Staple capacity will be raised by about 9% and a total increase of about 46% over last November by October of next year. Capacity of staple production, on an annual basis, will be about 450 million pounds by that time, compared with the yearly rate of 308 million pounds two months ago.

The Wall Street Journal, Jan. 12, 1951, p. 18.

RAYON: CELANESE TO MAKE STAPLE FIBER AT CELRIVER

Barring unavoidable delays, Celanese Corp. of America expects to begin producing synthetic staple fiber late this year in its plant at Celriver, where present production is solely acetate continuous filament yarns. Harmon Howorth, general manager, said that satisfactory progress is being made on this newly started, multi-million-dollar expansion program. The project includes both additional construction and installation of machinery and other equipment.

Consumption of the staple, over recent years particularly, has been increased steadily in consequence of development of heavier weight fabrics through textile research. At this time, with wool both scarce and at all-time record high prices, synthetic staple is being substituted liberally for wool in the textile industry.

Southern Textile News, January 20, 1951, p. 1.

RAYON: MEXICO BEGINS PRODUCTION OF ACETATE STAPLE

The production of acetate staple fiber has begun at the Celanese Mexicana plant in Octolan, Jalisco, Mexico, it was announced by Harold Blanke, president of Celanese Mexicana, S. A. The production rate for the first year may reach 5-1/2 million pounds, he announced.

Cotton Trade Journal, Jan. 5, 1951, p. 3.

MORE ARTIFICIAL FIBERS USED IN BEDCOVERS AS WOOL PRICE SOARS

More blanket makers are mixing man-made rayon with natural fibers like wool and cotton. One manufacturer estimates that the segment of the industry which turned out only all-wool blankets last year will weave 30 percent of their output of wool-rayon blends in 1951. Recently introduced was a baby's crib blanket made entirely of Dynel, a new synthetic fiber produced by Union Carbide & Carbon Corp. Dynel is said to resemble wool in warmth, strength and washability, and it is resistant to fire and moths. Some nylon is already being used in blankets, and producers are experimenting with other synthetics that they hope to substitute for wool: Du Pont's Orlon, similar to Dynel, and Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co.'s Vicara, made from a corn-derived chemical.

The blanket makers are following a path already trod by producers of suits and carpets. This year 5% to 8% of all men's winterweight suits will be woven of wool-rayon blends; last year practically all were all-wool. In 1951, it is estimated, between 30 and 60 percent of American-made carpets will contain some rayon in place of wool; this change barely got started last year.

The Wall Street Journal, January 10, 1951, p. 1.

MOST MAJOR MILLS FEATURE RAYON-WOOL BLENDS IN 1951

One year ago at the January market openings, it was possible to find only one mill with a complete line of rayon-and-wool blended carpets. This year, by contrast, finds carpets appearing in the lines of all major manufacturers. Although extensive work had been going on behind the scenes for many years, it was not until 1950 that the industry began to take advantage of the styling and utility values of the newer types of carpet rayons. The year of 1950 might be looked upon as one of epic achievement by the carpet industry. In one year we have witnessed the adaptation of blends of wool and carpet rayon by at least 14 different mills. One of the very largest manufacturers has publicly announced that 60 percent of its line will be in blends in 1951, whereas another of the three primary manufacturers will place about 27 percent of their production in this category.

Journal of Commerce, January 8, 1951, p. 13.

RAYON: NEW RAYON CENTER PLASTIC BELT INTRODUCED

After a long period of experiment and testing, J. H. Fenner and Co., Ltd., Hull, have introduced "Fenaplast," a belt constructed upon an entirely new principle. The load bearing cords are manufactured from rayon and the belt is sealed together with a plastic material which will stand moisture.

Advantages claimed for this new belting are that it has an unusually high coefficient of friction when run on steel or cast iron pulleys, that it holds fasteners well, that its length does not vary with changing atmospheric conditions, and that it is capable of much higher efficiency than existing types. It is non-inflammable and the extreme toughness and horniness of the plastic material used give great resistance against wear.

Textile Weekly, Dec. 15, 1950, p. 1616.

COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY AND EQUIPMENT

MISSISSIPPI TO GET MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CARPET MILL

The first major southern plant expansion by one of the country's top-flight carpet makers has been announced by Alexander Smith & Sons. Plans call for the construction of a completely modern, integrated carpet mill for the manufacture of a new type Axminster fabric in both narrow and broadloom widths. All processes from raw materials to the finished product will be carried out under one roof in a straight-line production operation. The plant will be built in Greenville, Mississippi, and under terms of the arrangement, the City of Greenville will provide erection costs while the company will invest \$3 million for the necessary production equipment. Plans for the new mill are a part of large-scale modernization and expansion program by Alexander Smith. Only recently, plans were announced to completely realign and modernize its facilities at Yonkers, New York, costing between 7 million and 10 million dollars.

American Wool and Cotton Reporter, Dec. 28, 1950, p. 17.

TEXTILE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH OUTLAY FOR 1950 GIVEN

Federal appropriations for agricultural research during the 1950 fiscal year approximated 59 million dollars, of which 47 million was allotted to Department of Agriculture agencies and 12 to the State experiment stations. States themselves provided more than 40 million dollars for agricultural research making the grand total, Federal-State, about 100 million. The USDA conducts research at more than 400 field locations in the United States and also in about 30 foreign countries. States and Territories maintain approximately 325 research centers. The Government has approximately 4,100 scientists engaged in research and the States have a scientific personnel of about 5,900, of which 2,900 are engaged in research full-time and the remainder divide their time between research, extension, and teaching.

Chemurgic Digest, Dec. 1950, p. 10.

FIBER PROPERTIES TOLD IN PUBLICATION

The Commerce Department announced the publication of a 326-page review of fiber characteristics and their influence on textiles. It was prepared for the Quartermaster's Research and Development Branch. Foreign and American literature on the subject is covered up to 1947, including detailed abstracts and illustrations. The title is "A Study of the Effects of Textile Fibers into Textile

Structure." The review's 1,053 abstracts cover mechanical behavior and plastic theory, physical form, mechanical properties, absorption, solvation and density, friction, fiber theory, yarn theory, fabric theory, subfiber structure, testing, fibers, yarns, fabric, and the modification of properties through finishing.

Journal of Commerce, Jan. 11, 1951, p. 12.

COTTON DEFOLIATION RESEARCH REVISION IS URGED AT PARLEY

Revision of a number of phases of cotton defoliation research was recommended in a steering committee report at the close of the two-day Fifth Annual Beltwide Cotton Defoliation Conference. The Steering committee recommended and appointed a research committee to consider revising experiments concerned with (1) studies of varietal characteristics of the cotton plant, (2) influence of defoliation on efficiency of mechanical harvesting (3) comparison of defoliants, rates and application methods, and (4) the effect of chemical defoliation on the quantity and quality of cottonseed and lint. Studies on the influence of defoliation on the speed of hand picking—one of five regional experiments which include the four listed above—should be left up to individual cooperators, the committee recommended.

The group recommended further that consideration of any other basic regional defoliation experiments be referred to the research committee which includes federal, state and commercial personnel actively engaged in basic defoliation research.

Journal of Commerce, Jan. 16, 1951, p. 13.

TESTS REVEAL ACAIA, HOPI 50 DIFFERENT FROM OTHER COTTON

A preliminary report on an extraordinary strain of cotton—Acala, Hopi 50—has been made by the Richard Spier Cotton Fiber Laboratory, describing the strain as having unusual staple strength and different from any other cotton. The report follows:

Staple strength, Prossley 9.64 or 104,000 pounds per square inch.

Staple length (Fibrograph) Uniformity Ratio: 90.6.

Staple Fineness (Micronaire): 4.9 to 5.0 micrograms per inch of staple.

Expressed in cotton man's language we would describe the Hopi 50 as:

"Different from any other cotton. A cotton of its own. Unusually even-running staple, our sample material, being 1-1/16" and 1-1/8" full. Very few neps, almost none. Staple coarser than the 4-42. Distinctly silky touch. Slightly creamy color. Staple strength surpassing any other growth."

The Cotton Trade Journal, Jan. 12, 1951, p. 6.

TEXTILE TECHNOLOGISTS WILL MEET TO STUDY NEEDS OF ARMED SERVICES

To provide suggestions in the development of new fabrics for the armed forces, the American Association of Textile Technologists has arranged a full day "Conference on New Fabrics for the Armed Forces" to take place on Wednesday, February 28, at the Hotel Commodore. The program seeks to provide an exchange of views of some of the industry's leading technologists regarding fabrics now under study for military purposes. The morning session will be given over to a consideration of the apparel fabrics required by Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force. After

an industry lunch, there will be an afternoon technical session at which new needs of the Air Force for filament fabrics will be discussed. In the preparation of the program, the association has the active cooperation and participation of the textile technical sections of all the branches of the services.

Southern Textile News, Jan. 13, 1951, p. 5.

DUPONT TO EXPAND RESEARCH FACILITIES

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., has announced it will expand its research facilities in animal medicine and nutrition at an initial cost of some \$2,700,000. Four buildings will be erected at Oakland, a 291-acre farm which duPont acquired near Newark, Del., it was said. This work, due to be started in the spring, is expected to take about a year. One of the single-story buildings will be a service center, and the others will be devoted to research on nutrition, biology and animal diseases.

Journal of Commerce, January 15, 1951, p. 11.

ANTI-SHRINK PROCESS PASSES U. S. ARMY TESTS

S. & M. Dye Works, Inc., Philadelphia, has announced that ^{its} Kelpie process is the first anti-shrink process to pass the stringent U. S. A. Quartermaster specifications for all wool sweaters. Kelpie is a continuous wet chlorination process used in the processing of wool. In making the announcement, Lindsey H. Mason, president of S. & M. Dye Works, said, "This information is vital to the many manufacturers of woollens who will soon be filling government contracts."

Journal of Commerce, January 17, 1951, p. 13.

OILSEEDS AND RELATED PRODUCTS

DOMESTIC OUTPUT OF FATS AND OILS TO REACH NEW PEAK IN 1950-51

Production of fats and oils, including the oil equivalent of domestic oilseeds exported, in the year which began October 1, 1950 probably will be slightly greater than the record output of 12 billion pounds a year earlier. Output of lard, tallow, and greases will increase moderately. Flaxseed production was down 11 percent last year, but with a large carryover of old crop flaxseed, flaxseed crushings and output of linseed oil will be at least as large as in 1949-50, when 725 million pounds were produced. Production of vegetable oils (including oil equivalent of exported domestic oilseeds) may decline slightly. Crop conditions December 1 indicated that the 1950 cotton crop is almost 40 percent smaller than a year earlier, slightly more than offsetting the effect on oil supplies of an increase of 24 percent in the soybean crop and a 9 percent increase in the peanut crop. Output of butter is expected to decline in 1950-51.

The Fats and Oils Situation, BAE, Dec. 1950-Jan. 1951, p. 4.

CHANGES ARE REPORTED IN WORLD MARKETS FOR VEGETABLE OILS

Important changes are occurring in the world market for vegetable oils, particularly since the U. S. Government froze imports of Chinese tung oil last December 17. B. T. Rocca, Jr., vice president of Pacific Vegetable Oil Corp., said on his return from the Orient. The hunt is on for substitutes for tung oil, of which Pacific Vegetable Oil handled a large part of the world supply before the freeze. The oil is widely used -- 10 million pounds a month normally in the United States-- as a raw material in the paint and varnish industry.

Linseed oil, made from flax, safflower oil, now grown on some 25,000 acres in California's valleys, and oiticica oil from Brazil are being sought to take the place of tung oil. California had about 65,000 acres in flax last year and vegetable oil crushers and distributors including Pacific Vegetable oil, hope farmers will increase acreages of both flax and safflower this year. The latter crop, a thistle-like growth, is in an experimental stage, however, and some farmers who tried failed to produce a crop.

The Wall Street Journal, Jan. 18, 1951, p. 5.

PHILLIPINE COPRA PRODUCTION UP 10 TO 15 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

Phillipine production in 1950 of coconut products -- copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut -- probably will be from 925,000 to 950,000 long tons in terms of copra, according to Merrill W. Abbey, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Manila. This predicted output is an increase of 10 to 15 percent from the estimated tonnage produced in 1949. Moreover, it represents a substantial upward revision from the 875,000 tons considered a possibility 3 months ago.

Foreign Crops and Markets, Dec. 18, 1950, p. 639.

1950 OUTPUT OF SOYBEANS AND PEANUTS UP; COTTONSEED AND FLAXSEED DECLINE

The December crop report indicates that the 1950 soybean crop will total 287 million bushels, 24 percent more than a year earlier. Output of cottonseed (based upon the 1945-49 ratio between production of cottonseed and cotton lint) is estimated at 4.0 million tons, 39 percent less than a year earlier. Production of peanuts is estimated at 2,038 million pounds, 9 percent more than a year earlier. Production of flaxseed is estimated at 39.3 million bushels, 11 percent less than the year before.

Table 8.-Total acreage, yield per acre, and production of selected crops, United States, for specified years and months.

Item	Unit	1950 indicated: Dec. 1	1949	1948	1947	Average 1942-46	Average 1937-41
ACREAGE							
Cottonseed	1,000 acres	18,654	27,719	23,264	21,611	20,206	26,358
Soybeans	1,000 acres	13,291	10,156	10,430	11,212	10,198	4,126
Flaxseed	1,000 acres	4,064	5,226	5,001	4,161	4,072	2,305
Peanuts	1,000 acres	2,315	2,332	3,311	3,380	3,251	1,818
Rice	1,000 acres	1,608	1,840	1,781	1,693	1,495	1,101
YIELD PER ACRE							
Cottonseed	pounds	429	473	511	433	433	414
Soybeans	bushels	21.6	22.7	21.4	16.4	18.9	18.7
Flaxseed	bushels	9.7	8.4	10.9	9.7	8.3	8.0
Peanuts	pounds	881	804	706	646	649	767
Rice	pounds	2,361	2,215	2,149	2,080	2,039	2,181
PRODUCTION							
Cottonseed	1,000 tons	4,005 ^{5/}	6,559	5,945	4,682	4,394	5,500
Soybeans	Mil. bushels	287.0	230.9	223.0	183.6	192.6	76.7
Flaxseed	Mil. bushels	39.3	43.9	54.5	40.5	34.0	19.6
Peanuts	Mil. bushels	2,038	1,876	2,338	2,183	2,106	1,395
Tung nuts	1,000 tons	38.8	87.9	58.5	53.2	28.7	7.0 ^{6/}
Rice	100# bags	37,971	40,747	38,275	35,217	30,497	23,917

1/ In cultivation July 1.

2/ Harvested for beans.

3/ Planted.

4/ Picked and threshed.

5/ Calculated from the December indication of 1950 cotton lint production and the 1945-49 average ratio between production of cottonseed and cotton lint.

6/ 1939-41 average.

HEAVY SOYBEAN CRUSHINGS INDICATE 250,000,000-BU. TOTAL FOR SEASON

A November 1950 soybean crush of approximately 23 million bushels—a new monthly record—appears to support trade opinions which forecast an annual crush of 250 million bushels and a spring-summer price for beans of approximately \$4. For the first two months of the new soybean crop year the bean crush has been running at more than 20 million bushels for each month, indicating an annual crush in excess of 240 million. The normal peak crush of beans comes in March, but it is now doubted that the crushers can exceed the November level. On the other hand, it is expected that a steady high level will be attained.

Feedstuffs, January 6, 1951, p. 6.

PRICES OF DOMESTIC VEGETABLE OILS CONTINUE TO INCREASE

Prices of domestic edible vegetable oils advanced in early December, with the price of soybean oil increasing the most. Prices of domestic fats and oils in the latter half of December and the first week of January remained relatively unchanged. By mid-January, however, prices again started upward. The price of tung oil increased sharply in the latter half of December, following the "freezing" by the U. S. Government of Chinese dollar assets in the United States and the announcement by Communist China of an embargo on all exports to the United States. Prices of other fast-drying oils also rose.

Table 9.—Prices of vegetable oils and meals

	: January : 1951	: December : 1950 11/	: November : 1950	: January : 1950
	Cents per pound			
<u>OILS 1/</u>	<u>January 15</u>			
Cottonseed oil.....	24.5	21.4	20.6	11.1
Peanut oil.....	24.3	21.6	22.2	13.2
Soybean oil.....	20.8	19.6	17.1	10.8
Corn oil.....	23.3	22.0	20.6	11.9
Coconut oil 2/.....	22.5	20.2	20.1	17.2
Linseed oil 3/.....	21.3	19.5	17.2	18.4
Tung oil 4/.....	39.5	30.9	26.4	28.1
		Dollars per ton		
<u>MEALS 5/</u>	<u>January 13</u>			
Cottonseed meal 6/.....	82.00	80.75	74.75	59.00
Peanut meal 7/.....	70.50	65.55	65.00	63.35
Soybean meal 8/.....	67.50	76.40	73.35	66.00
Coconut meal 9/.....	61.00	57.75	57.55	59.50
Linseed meal 10/.....	64.50	65.75	63.10	69.30

1/ Crude, tanks, f.o.b. mills except as noted. From Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, (daily quotations) and from Fats and Oils Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).

2/ Crude, tanks, carlots, Pacific Coast. Three cents added to allow for tax on first domestic processing.

3/ Raw, drums, carlots, New York.

4/ Drums, carlots, New York.

5/ Bagged carlots, as given in Feedstuffs, (daily quotations) and Feed Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).

6/ 41 percent protein, Memphis.

7/ 45 percent protein, S. E. Mills.

8/ 41 percent protein, Chicago. 44 percent beginning July 1950.

9/ 19 percent protein, Los Angeles.

10/ 34 percent protein, Minneapolis. 36 percent beginning July 1950.

11/ Preliminary.

PEANUT PRODUCTION NOW FORECAST AT 9 PERCENT MORE THAN LAST YEAR

Production of peanuts for picking and threshing is estimated at 2,038 million pounds on the basis of December 1 prospects. This is 8.7 percent more than the 1,876 million pounds produced in 1949, and 4 percent more than the 10-year average production of 1,951 million pounds.

Table 10.-Peanuts picked and threshed, U. S., specified years and periods

State	Yield per acre			Production		
	Average	1949	Indic.	Average	1949	Indic.
	: 1939-48 :	:	1950	: 1939-48 :	:	1950
	Pounds			Thousand pounds		
Virginia.....	1,220	1,420	1,475	186,333	195,960	221,250
North Carolina.....	1,138	1,030	1,060	315,847	243,080	248,040
Tennessee.....	762	825	800	5,922	4,125	4,000
Total (Va.-N.C. area)....	1,159	1,169	1,217	508,102	443,165	473,290
South Carolina.....	611	650	750	18,312	14,300	15,750
Georgia.....	687	765	900	666,233	612,000	691,200
Florida.....	632	765	820	63,350	51,255	59,040
Alabama.....	670	830	975	295,360	290,500	335,400
Mississippi.....	355	375	425	8,314	4,875	5,525
Total (S.E. area)...	672	777	909	1,051,568	972,930	1,106,915
Arkansas.....	373	450	475	6,877	3,600	3,325
Louisiana.....	328	360	340	3,201	1,080	1,020
Oklahoma.....	469	670	580	89,137	113,900	116,580
Texas.....	450	650	675	283,952	333,450	330,750
N. Mexico.....	1,022	1,100	935	7,853	7,700	6,545
Total (S.W. area)...	455	656	647	391,020	459,730	458,220
United States.....	687	804	881	1,950,690	1,875,825	2,038,425

From "Weekly Peanut Report," P.M.A., Dec. 20, 1950, p. 3.

MORE DOMESTIC OILS FOR THE SOUTH

Promotion of industrial possibilities for oil-bearing plants of the Southwest is nothing new to W. M. Potts, chemistry professor at Texas A&M College. In this field Dr. Potts is probably best known for his work with the Chinese tallow tree. Now he has come up with several more. Queen's Root, or Queen's Delight (*Stillingia sylvatica* L.), which flowers in spring and has ripe fruit in late summer, grows to height of three to four feet and its seed is 30% oil. Dr. Potts thinks it's possible to grow this shrub as a row crop and to harvest it mechanically. Not only is the seed a source of a potentially good drying oil, but the root contains oil, a resin, and a glucoside. Others: Native and Chinese Perillas grow luxuriantly around Saratoga, Tex., northwest of Beaumont. Because of a high degree of unsaturation, oil from the Perilla should also prove of considerable interest to the paint and varnish industry.

Chemical and Engineering News, Jan. 8, 1951, p. 100.

USE OF EDIBLE GRADE PEANUTS IN PRIMARY PRODUCTS DOWN SHARPLY FROM 1949

The amount of shelled peanuts (raw basis) used domestically in primary products during the 1950-51 season through December 31 totaled 271 million pounds, compared with 380 million pounds during the comparable period last year. This large reduction is accounted for mainly by the decreased amounts of shelled peanuts crushed for oil, cake and meal. In all end-use categories, however, shelled peanuts were being used in smaller quantities than last season.

Table 11.-Shelled peanuts (raw basis) reported used domestically in primary products

Reported use	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31 1950	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31 1949	Season, Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 1949-50	Season, Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 1948-49
	Thousand pounds			
TOTAL, all grades.....	270,964	380,131	925,058	710,596
Edible grades, total....	175,135	183,139	510,109	484,431
Peanut candy 1/.....	44,000	47,870	126,287	107,181
Salted peanuts.....	43,684	44,191	118,291	120,018
Peanut butter 2/.....	85,461	86,470	256,168	250,184
Other products.....	1,990	4,608	9,363	7,048
Crushed for oil, cake, and meal 3/.....	95,829	196,992	414,949	226,165

1/ Includes peanut butter made by manufacturers for own use in candy.

2/ Excludes peanut butter made by manufacturers for own use in candy.

3/ Includes ungraded or straight run peanuts.

From: "Peanut Stocks and Processing," BAE, Jan. 24, 1951.

RESEARCH HELPS TUNG

Five hundred thousand improved tung trees in the Gulf Coast region provide a clearcut example of the value of varied research in increasing the efficiency of a crop. From a few seeds brought from China less than 50 years ago, the industry has increased until the growers actually turn out \$5,000,000 worth of nuts containing more than 50 percent high-grade drying oil. The half-million improved trees have been tested and yield three times as much oil as the early untested seedling trees. Results from soil, nutrition and cultural studies with tung nuts may prove useful on any number of other crops. Already the new oil determination method is being tried on peanuts, orange and grapefruit seed meals. It is possible that corn and crotalaria will benefit from the same mineral treatment.

Chemurgic Digest, December 1950, p. 6.

LINTERS AND CELLULOSE

LINTERS PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION AND PRICES DECLINE; STOCKS UP

Production of linters at oil mills totaled 189,000 bales during November, according to the Bureau of the Census. This compares with 207,000 bales in October and 235,000 in November 1949. The August-November production this season is 16 percent smaller than the same period last season but is 7 percent larger than the 5 year (1945-49) average for this 4 month period.

Consumption of linters totaled 110,000 bales in December, compared with 118,000 bales in November and 131,000 in December a year ago. Should the August-December consumption rate be maintained for the remainder of the season, consumption would be 7 percent smaller than the 1949-50 season. Bleachers consumed 68,000 bales of linters in December compared with 71,000 bales in November and 84,000 in December a year ago. Bleachers consumption so far this season is 13 percent smaller than last year.

Prices of felting grade linters increased very slightly in December, while chemical grades lost from one-fourth to one cent per pound. This is the first decrease in linters prices since the latter part of June, 1950.

Table 12.-Cotton linters: Production, consumption by industries, stocks and prices, United States, for specified months

	: December : 1950	: November : 1950	: October : 1950	: September : 1950	: December : 1949 ^{1/}
	Thousand bales				
Production ^{2/}	3/	189.0	206.0	132.0	235.0
Consumption ^{4/}	110.3	118.5	128.9	124.0	131.2
Quantity bleached.....	68.0	71.0	63.9	69.6	83.6
Other industries.....	42.3	47.5	65.0	54.4	47.6
Stocks ^{5/}	3/	461.0	409.0	337.0	532.0
Prices ^{6/}	Cents				
No. 2 grade, per pound..	24.35	24.33	19.18	17.28	10.02
No. 4 grade, per pound..	18.96	19.25	15.78	13.69	5.67
No. 6 grade, per pound..	15.13	16.06	13.94	11.63	2.26

^{1/} Production and stocks for November 1949.

^{2/} From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA.

^{3/} Data not available.

^{4/} From Facts for Industry, "Cotton and Linters," Bureau of the Census.

^{5/} Total stocks in consumer establishments, public storage and warehouses, and mills. Stocks at end of the month. From Facts for Industry, "Cotton Linters," Bureau of the Census.

^{6/} Average of average weekly prices, Memphis, Dallas, and Atlanta. From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA.

LARGER DISSOLVING WOOD PULP SUPPLY SEEN

As regards the availability of dissolving wood pulp, it appears that the supply situation may be alleviated somewhat by new production. The indicated schedule of new dissolving wood pulp capacity in terms of short tons per year that has, or is expected to, become available from mid-1950 through the end of 1951 comprises the International Paper Company, Natchez, Miss., began late Summer 1950 -- 110,000 tons; Columbia Cellulose Company, Ltd., Prince Rupert, British Columbia, began first quarter of 1951 -- 75,000 tons, and Rayonier, Inc., additions to existing facilities, begin late in 1951 -- 45,000 tons, making a total of 230,000 tons.

Based on figures of the U. S. Pulp Producers Association, the 1950 total supply of dissolving plus special chemical grades of wood pulp in this country may approximate 715,000 tons, composed of 480,000 tons domestic production and 235,000 tons imported. The great bulk of this supply is shipped to the domestic market,

less than 25,000 tons being exported. It is possible that approximately 475,000 tons of this 1950 domestic supply or nearly 70 percent was used by the domestic rayon producing industry, the balance being consumed in the manufacture of such products as cellophane, plastics, film, lacquers, explosives, etc.

Rayon Organon, January 1951, p. 4.

DISSOLVING WOOD PULP AVAILABLE FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION SHOWS INCREASE

The total amount of dissolving wood pulp available for domestic consumption reached a new monthly high of 61,455 tons in October. This compares with 60,710 tons in September and a monthly average of 19,426 tons in 1939. Domestic production of dissolving wood pulp in November was 42,695 tons, a decline of 944 tons from the previous month.

Table 13. Dissolving wood pulp: Production, exports, imports, and quantities made available for consumption, U. S., for specified years and months (Tons)

Year	Domestic production 1/	Imports 2/	Exports 2/	Available for domestic consumption 3/
1939.....	193,420	88,052	48,232	233,240
1946.....	298,474	202,192	8,491	492,175
1947.....	324,927	248,606	10,389	563,144
1948.....	356,700	243,740	15,937	584,503
1949.....	4/	154,348	25,928	4/
1950, August.....	43,775	16,368	1,643	58,500
1950, September...	36,896	26,068	2,254	60,710
1950, October....	43,639	18,661	845	61,455
1950, November...	42,695	4/	4/	4/

1/ Sulphite, bleached, dissolving grades. From Facts for Industry, Pulp and Paper Manufactures, Bureau of the Census.

2/ Sulphite, bleached, rayon and special chemical grades. Data from Foreign Commerce Statistics of the U. S., Bureau of the Census.

3/ Production plus imports, less exports.

4/ No data available.

DECEMBER PRICES OF PURIFIED LINTERS DECREASE; DISSOLVING WOOD PULP UNCHANGED

The price of purified linters decreased to 26.70 cents per pound in December from the all-time high of 27.30 cents the previous month. The price of dissolving wood pulp has remained unchanged for the past three months, although a moderate increase in all three grades recently has been announced by a large producer of dissolving wood pulp.

Table 14.- Average annual price of purified linters and dissolving wood pulp, United States, for specified years and months

(Cents per pound)					
Year	Purified linters	Standard viscose grade	Wood pulp 2/		
			High-tenacity	Acetate and cupra grade	
1946.....	9.50	5.60	5.85	6.15	
1947.....	16.30	7.03	7.44	8.04	
1948.....	11.25	7.93	8.44	9.20	
1949.....	8.62	7.94	8.44	9.06	
1949, December.....	8.00	7.50	8.05	8.55	
1950, September.....	23.30	7.95	8.50	9.25	
1950, October.....	24.75	8.65	9.25	10.50	
1950, November.....	27.30	8.65	9.25	10.50	
1950, December.....	26.70	8.65	9.25	10.50	

- 1/ Weighted averages, 1946-48. On 7 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. pulp plant. Average freight to users is 0.5 cent per pound. Prices supplied by a producer.
- 2/ Average of monthly prices, 1946-49. Compiled from Rayon Organon and from letters to us from producer. Wood pulp prices are 10 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. domestic producing mill, full freight, and 3 percent transportation tax allowed, December 1, 1947, on; freight equalized with that Atlantic or Gulf port carrying lowest backhaul rate to destination plus 3 percent of backhaul charges, prior to December 1.

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS

OLIN CELLOPHANE PLANT TO START IN SEPTEMBER

The world's newest and most modern cellophane plant, now being built at Pisgah Forest, North Carolina, for Olin Industries, Inc., is scheduled to be in full operation by September 1951. The eight-machine Olin plant will produce an estimated 33 million pounds of cellophane annually to help relieve the shortage of cellophane which has existed since the beginning of World War II.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, Jan. 17, 1951, p. 1.

CORN COBS YIELD INGREDIENT FOR CONCRETE

Chopped up corn cobs, soaked in water for several hours, yield an excellent ingredient for concrete, according to Farm Journal. Department of Agriculture engineers at Beltsville, Md., and the Michigan Experiment Station have found the corn cob concrete to have three times the insulating value of ordinary concrete, is cheaper, and will hold nails and screws. It is not quite as strong but has strength enough for most farm uses, the report said. Cobs are ground or chopped into pellets up to the size of walnuts before soaking for approximately six hours. One part cement by volume to 1-1/2 parts corn cobs, 2 parts sand, and 1 part of gravel will produce a concrete that will test 1,360 pounds per square inch, engineers said.

Chemurgic Digest, November 1950, p. 9.